

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

IO-10 ACDA-05 NIC-01 /073 W
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R 101404Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 461

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 248

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF LIBERAL

AND SOCIALIST POLITICIANS IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) BONN 2020; (B) BONN 2117

1. ALLIED MISSION RECEIVED NO INVITATIONS TO ATTEND
INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF LIBERAL POLITICIANS FEB 8-9
IN BERLIN (SITE WAS CHANGED AT LAST MINUTE FROM
REICHSTAG BUILDING TO KEMPINSKI HOTEL). MEETING
ITSELF, ATTENDED INTER ALIA, BY FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER, LUXEMBOURG PRIME MINISTER THORN, AND
GERMAN EC COMMISSIONER BRUNNER, ATTRACTED MODEST
PUBLICITY. IN REMARKS CLEARLY TAILORED TO BERLIN
ELECTORAL CAMPAIG, GENSCHER EMPHASIZED TO
PARTICIPANTS THAT QA HAD MADE POSSIBLE "DYNAMIC
DEVELOPMENT" OF FRG-BERLIN TIES; DEFENDED DECISION TO
LOCATED EC VOCATIONAL CENTER IN WEST BERLIN; AND TERMED
READINESS OF EAST EUROPEAN NATIONS TO ACCEPT INCLUSION
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OF BERLIN IN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH FRG A TEST OF THEIR

DESIRE FOR DETENTE.

2. WHILE MEETING HAS COME AND GONE, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT POSITION FORMULATED IN BONN (REFTELS) MAY BE BASED ON MISUNDERSTANDING OF SITUATION AND MAY SET UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE, MOST IMMEDIATELY IN CASE OF PROJECTED FEB 22 MEETING OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN BERLIN. WE WOULD CERTAINLY NOT PROPOSE THAT ALLIES SEEK TO INJECT THEMSELVES INTO ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL MEETINGS OF THIS SORT OR PLAY ACTIVE ROLE--- SUCH A WELCOMING DELEGATES OR ENGAGING IN FORMAL DISCUSSIONS-- THAT MIGHT CONNOTE OFFICIAL APPROVAL OR BE CONSTRUED AS INTERVENTION IN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. ATTENDANCE ON INVITATION IN OBSERVER STATUS AT MEETINGS AND ANY CONCOMITANT SOCIAL FUNCTIONS, HOWEVER, IS NORMAL AND ACCEPTED PRACTICE FOR ALLIES IN BERLIN AS PART OF THEIR OBLIGATION TO KEEP ABREAST OF AND REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CITY. SUCH ATTENDANCE DOES NOT, IN OUR VIEW, IMPLY THAT WE ARE TAKING PARTISAN STANCE OR GIVING OUR SANCTION TO PARTICULAR MEETING, AND FACT THAT ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS IN PROGRESS OR THAT NON-GERMAN POLITICIANS MIGHT BE FEATURED ON PROGRAM SHOULD, WE MAINTAIN, MAKE NO DIFFERENCE. (ALLIED REPS HAVE BEEN ATTENDING MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY RALLIES IN RECENT WEEKS.)

3. IN LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT ALLIED EMBASSIES RECONSIDER POSITION SO AS TO ENABLE US TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS WHICH WE UNDERSTAND ARE LIKELY TO BE EXTENDED TO ATTEND FEB 22 INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GATHERING.GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, MEETINGS, INVITATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USBERL00248
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-0191
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750256/aaaabybd.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BONN 2020, 75 BONN 2117
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF LIBERAL AND SOCIALIST POLITICIANS IN BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB
To: BONN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006